

Horse Department.

Our work on MORGAN HORSES is progressing rapidly, but there are yet many horses that should be entered here whose pedigrees we have not received. We want full pedigree and history of every meritorious stallion descended in direct male line from Justin Morgan, with name and residence of the breeder of such horse and of the several dams. Blanks for this information will be furnished free by addressing THE REGISTER, Middlebury, Vt. No fee is required for this registration.

It will be perceived that we are publishing a large amount of original information on trotting pedigrees and historical matter on the early horses of this country, which cannot be obtained elsewhere; and we recommend to our patrons to PRESERVE THEIR FILLS OR THE REGISTER, as they will form, with the full indexes thereto, a most valuable and available encyclopedia upon these matters. An index will also be supplied for the literary department.

HISTORY OF VERMONT BLACK HAWK.

(From the American Cattiverator.)

Since publishing a series of articles last season containing all the facts from reliable sources that were then available concerning the breeding and early history of the renowned Vermont Black Hawk, several communications have been received from parties in the Green Mountain State who profess to believe that this celebrated animal, whose progeny may be found in every locality from Maine to California where a horse of the highest intelligence, docility, style and beauty, combined with a good degree of trotting speed, is appreciated, originated in Canada. Partly on this account, but more particularly owing to certain discrepancies and omissions occurring in the statements of those who had apparently investigated the matter and put on record the facts gleaned from their researches, we began another investigation in the hope of getting more complete information upon some points, the results of which will be given.

All writers who had investigated the subject agreed that Black Hawk was bred by a Mr. Twombly, formerly of Durham, N. H., Mr. Linsley in his "Essay on Morgan Horses," states that "Black Hawk was foaled in 1833, the property of Wingate Twombly of Greenland (formerly of Durham, N. H.)." In an interesting article published in *Walters' Monthly*, February, 1879, Dr. S. H. Green states that Mr. Kelley, who formerly owned the dam of Black Hawk, bred her to Sherman Morgan and afterwards sold her to one Shadrack Twombly, living about two miles out of Durham Village, who kept her till the following spring or summer, when she produced a fine horse colt.

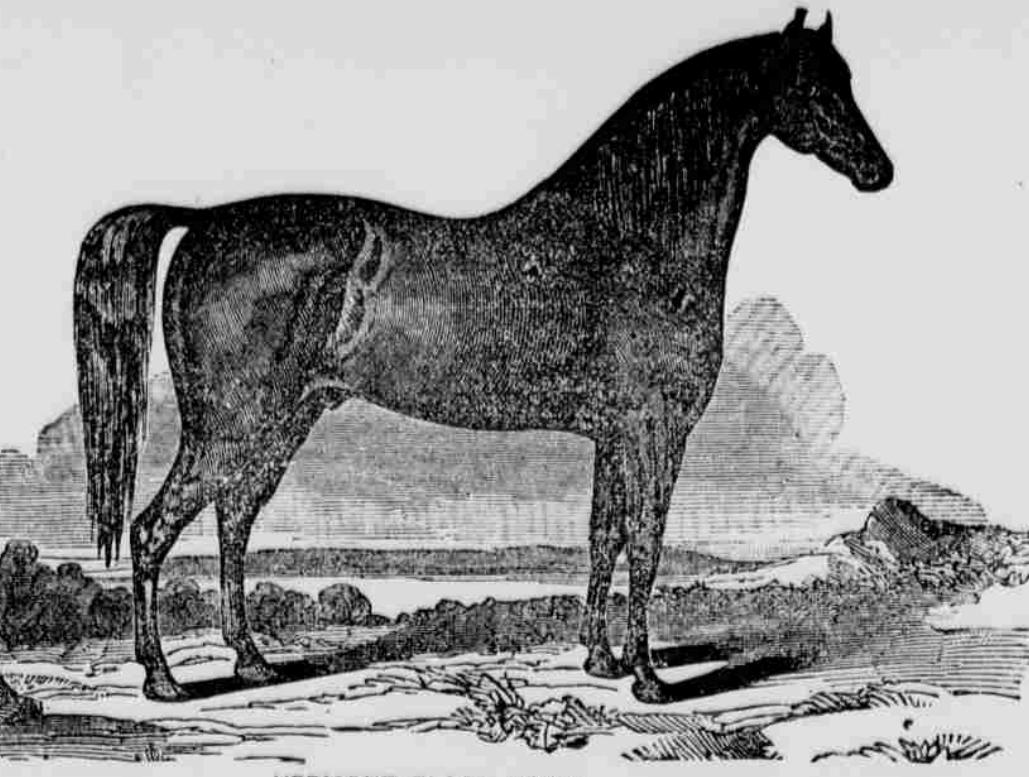
Mr. Howard Henderson, a resident of New Hampshire, stated, in a communication to the *Spirit of the Times* a few years since, that he knew the dam of Black Hawk well when she was owned by Benjamin Kelley, that he often drove his team over the bridge just to run them by the side of this mare to see her trot, that Kelley bred her to Sherman Morgan and soon afterward sold her, then carrying Black Hawk to Ezekiel Twombly of Durham." Mr. Henderson also mentions a lawsuit that, as he claims, grew out of the service fee of Sherman Morgan, but in this he was mistaken, as will be shown at the proper time. All agree that this mare was black, fine-looking, a fast trotter, was bred to Sherman Morgan and produced Black Hawk the following year, but all disagree in regard to the Christian name of Mr. Twombly, whose property the colt was foaled, a very trifling matter to be sure, yet sufficient to excite suspicion in the minds of those who honestly believe that the version given was not the true one concerning the breeding of this well-known animal. In his first volume of the *American Trotting Register*, Mr. J. H. Wallace gives Wingate Twombly as the breeder of Black Hawk, but in volume four it is stated that he was bred by Benjamin Kelley of Durham, N. H., and foaled the property of Mr. S. Twombly, near that place.

Thinking that some of the Twombly family might be still living whose personal knowledge of the affair would enable them to help solve the problem, a letter was addressed to the town clerk of Durham, N. H., asking if any persons by the name of Twombly were still living there; also if the records showed that either a Wingate or Shadrack Twombly died somewhere about 1834 or a year or two later. This query brought the following reply:

DURHAM, N. H., June 26, 1885.

(Editor of the American Cattiverator.) Dear Sir—I have looked over the records of the town but do not find that any Twomblys died near the time mentioned. There was a Wingate Twombly here at one time, also Shadrack, called Shadrack, but the man that owned Black Hawk was Ezekiel Twombly. He died in 1837. I went to his grave yesterday. He was well advanced in years, I think near eighty. I saw a man this morning who knew Twombly and knew the Black Hawk colt. The colt when two years old was a very mean-looking one. A man had a small bill against Twombly and presented it to him for payment. Twombly wanted him to take the colt, but it was so unprofitable that the creditor refused to comply with his wishes. The colt was afterwards bought by Albert Mathes.

Respectfully yours,



VERMONT BLACK HAWK.

STAMFORD, CT., Aug. 31, 1885.

"Editor of the American Cattiverator: Dear Sir—Yours of 25th inst. I will try to answer the questions in their order. When I first saw Black Hawk he was in the corral among the cattle. He was poor, small and rough-coated, yet he had such a bright intelligent look that I fancied him, and asked the owner to harness him to my sleigh. I stood and saw him drive past me once or twice, and finally exchanged a cheaper horse for him.

"It was his style and easy, open gait that I admired more than anything else, and I never saw anything before or since, more perfect.

He was one of the kind that is always broken.

I improved his speed and general appearance very much during the short time I kept him. I don't think he was ever away from the farm before I bought him, and I sold him directly to Brown & Thurston. Brown afterward sold his interest to Thurston, who gave the horse the name of Black Hawk.

"I never had and never shall have any doubt about his being a son of Sherman Morgan. It was for that reason probably that he was kept a stallion. He probably inherited many of his good qualities from his dam also. As I remember her she would be called a splendid animal in these days. I remember Paddy well. I think he was more of a dark chestnut than black. He was a small, compactly-built horse. I never knew or heard of any colts said to belong to him. I could tell of a great many more absurd things having been said about Black Hawk than the item (clipped from an exchange) which you sent me. Everything I have written you in this and in the previous letter is just as fresh to my memory as it occurred last week. Any time I can give information concerning Black Hawk that will be of interest, I will be happy to do so."

Very truly yours,

A. R. MATTHES.

Wishing to learn if either Wingate Twombly or the party from whom Mr. Mathes bought Black Hawk was living, a letter of inquiry was sent to the town clerk of Greenland, N. H., where Mr. Frost suggested Wingate Twombly was living at last accounts. The following reply was promptly received:

GREENLAND, N. H., Sept. 16.

"There is no Wingate Twombly living in this town. There was some years ago. There is a man by that name living in Portsmouth, N. H. If you want to write him direct your letter to Portsmouth, N. H., in care of Hiram Hayes.

Yours,

C. D. DENTON, Town Clerk."

A correspondence was at once opened with Mr. Hayes, from whom we learned that a Mr. Wingate Twombly was then living upon a part of his farm, that he was well advanced in years, a son of Ezekiel Twombly, who died in Durham, N. H., in 1837, and the very man whose name had always been associated with that of Black Hawk. Through the courtesy of Mr. Hayes, in reply to queries addressed to Mr. Twombly, the following facts were obtained:

PORISMOUL, N. H., Oct. 23, 1885.

"Editor of the American Cattiverator: Dear Sir—I have had a talk with Mr. Twombly and learned the following in regard to Black Hawk, which was dropped in the spring of 1833, at Durham, N. H. He was at first a small and very inferior-looking colt, but he was not gelded for the reason that Mr. Kelley induced Twombly to keep him entire on account of his looks. He was used by the Twomblys as a driver until sold when coming five years of age, and could trot by anything in those parts without hustling.

"Twombly senior died in the fall of 1837, and the colt, four years old past, was prized at \$100 and was taken by Shadrack Seavey, of Greenland, now living, at appraisement, to whom the estate was in debt. Mr. Seavey swapped him with Mr. Mathes in Durham for a gray mare, and got \$60 in cash to boot.

"The dam of Black Hawk was a black, striped mare from Nova Scotia, and would weigh 1000 pounds. She was a powerful animal and of great endurance, and could haul two men to a wagon a mile in three minutes. Her dam was said to have been imported. Mr. Twombly says he knew the horse Sherman Morgan well. He was a dark chestnut in color. Paddy was black. He never heard the story of his being got by Paddy until after Black Hawk became noted. The above is what I got from quite a conversation with the old man. If you require anything further upon the subject, I shall be pleased to assist you all I am able.

Respectfully yours,

C. H. HAYES.

In a future issue we shall give some interesting facts gleaned from a personal interview with Mr. Wingate Twombly and also Mr. Shadrack Seavey, a grandson of Ezekiel Twombly, who was the first person that ever saw Black Hawk, assisted him to his feet when foaled, broke him to halter, bridle, back and carriage, bought him of the estate after Ezekiel Twombly's death, and traded him to Albert R. Mathes, author of the above letters.

QUERIES.

Will subscribers and correspondents assist us in getting the information here asked for?

BLACK HAWK MORGAN.—Mr. Robert Saxon of Groves, Ind., wants to know the breeding of Black Hawk Morgan.

When I came there they had a pair of colts: chestnut one died."

"I went there in the spring, and in fall went to W. H.'s and boarded and went to school; then in spring I let myself to W. H. and worked there three years. The old man owned his place, the upper place. I was at Warner Cook's first, summer and winter and next summer till fall. Joseph Cook was born while I was at his father, W. H. Cook's. He was born in the winter." (Rev. Joseph Cook gives his birthday January 23, 1838.) "It seems to me as though I had been there a winter before, but not certain. I was with W. H. Cook three winters. He did not sell the farm while I was there. He sold the farm to Cooper and I worked for him after working for W. H. Cook; that was when he went back to his father's, I guess. Cooper failed and went off West. I was at W. H. Cook's three years continuously. All that time he lived where he died. I don't think I ever worked for him again. The first winter I went to school; the next, I went some, I guess; may have been some the third winter, but guess not. W. H. Cook and I broke a pair of big colts that winter; one was bay and one dun; they were out of the dun mares; they sold the dun mares to Craig Bigelow before I went there. I think the spring before."

"Ira Potter was working for Warner when I was; think he was there when I went there; worked next winter. They had a name for the gray mare, but I forgot it. It kind of seems to me as though George Johnson at some time owned that mare. I can't say—don't know. Nobody ever asked me—I never had charge of it before or since I was there. She was pretty near white; a few dots round among the hair."

"I think he got the mare in the summer or fall after I went there—the first fall. They did not have her when I went there. They had the Moon and McConnell mares that they worked in the summer, and oxen. In the fall they had more horses, but I guess they hired them. Moses Wells worked there next summer after I went there."

"I knew Ambrose Potter, an oldish man when I was a boy; lived up in Hague; he was father to these Potter down here; he lived up the lake road. The Curtises lived up in Rising's neighborhood. Anson Curtis lived up back there. Ambrose Potter may have lived up there, but the last I knew of him he lived up the lake road. Reuben Potter was older than I, ten or twelve years; I knew him well; he was another horse jockey; shouldn't wonder if he began young. I knew him when I first came down to Warner Cook's. Ira was about my age. They lived right this side of Warner Cook's. Abel Rising went West before I worked for Warner Cook."

We then called on Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Cook, who lived at an attractive home very near the shore of Lake George. Mrs. Cook was living, at the time of their marriage, June 2, 1844, at the Warner Cook place, with W. H. Cook and family, who were then there, but moved back to the lower place soon afterward. They did not remember about the horses. Mr. Cook showed us a fine bay two-years-old, of his own breeding, by Jim Lamberton, dam by Emperor.

We made a last call on Justus B. Rising at Thibouton, who said that his father, Horace Rising, used to go up to Hague in the fall and log through the winter, and that he went with him when about fourteen and drew logs; he does not remember that he saw the mare at that time, but thinks it was afterward; used to see her frequently when he was there in the summer, because she ran in the lot next to their place; remembers her having a colt; thinks it was an iron gray colt; thinks the mare was a young mare. (It will be remembered that Mr. Rising was born in 1820 and his father died in 1837.) He thinks it was after his father's death that he saw the mare with the colt, but would not be certain. The mare was quite a jumper, and they used to have a pole on her. Has seen his Uncle Rufus drive her in a team on the farm, but never saw him draw logs with her; does not think he ever drew logs with her; he seldom drew logs; he had a brown mare that he drove with her. Is quite sure that he saw her there before his father's death; thinks that Ira Potter would be pretty apt to know about the mare, as he lived right there among the Risings, and married Betsey Balcom, a sister to Uncle Tom Risings' wife; he is an honest, square man. William Bevin always lived there. Rufus Rising lived very near where his son Rufus does now, this way a little further south, not more than 150 rods, when the mare had the colt; he moved from there to where Rufus lives now. The old place was near the school house on the upper side of the road. He moved first into a very small house, then built another that has been fixed over into the present one, which was built after his brother Horace's death. The first our informant remembers of his Uncle Rufus was living at the school-house place, where young Rufus was born. He had the gray mare when he lived there, and, he thinks, had her when he moved into the town for her style and speed on the road, and he hired this mare to Harris Hambleton; Then he traded for a stallion, and took him to Plattsburgh, N. Y. The last I heard of him (Lockwood) is that he had gone West, taking the horse with him.

When I went from Warner's I went to W. H. Cook's and worked for him three years. I think Warner died the last year I worked for W. H. H.; not sure. It was the next year after I went there that they divided the property. W. H. did not live there; he lived at the lower place. This was the first place I ever worked by the month. My father moved off and I went up there. I was living at Persons' before and up to that time. My father, David Knapp, owned a farm in Hague; he sold it and went West; he sold the year before I went to Cook's; don't know but he sold to Howard Phillips; it got round to Hiram Murphy's hands.

"I was down at Mr. Lamb's the day W. H. Cook brought the priest up there to marry him to Mr. Lamb's daughter, the present Mrs. Cook. I was then pretty near sixteen. I then lived up home; I know that; it was after father sold the farm that I went to Cook's; I had lived at Persons' a year after that. I think, but not certain, that they did not have the black mare and the white mare when I went there. Warner had a brown bay called the Moon mare. Valorus Cook (son of Warner) bought a sorrel mare of McConnell that lived on the place where Roger Delano now lives; Val. bought this mare to match the bay mare. This sorrel one used to run—they used to run

get. Comet was by the Williams Horse and he by old Comet. The dam of Maid of Monti was a bay mare brought here from Ohio, and her breeding is unknown, but had every appearance of being well bred. I have a full brother of the Maid now, a stallion, and a very good one. Any further information you may wish in regard to the matter I shall be happy to furnish you on application. I kept the mare until after she got her record of 2:28 at Gatesburgh, Ill., and afterwards sold her to a party at Tiffin, Ohio, and she is now owned in Cleveland, Ohio.

Yours truly, P. O. BABCOCK.

[We have written to Mr. Babcock for pedigree and history of old Comet. Ed. REGISTER.]

LETTER FROM R. P. SMITH.

WOONSOCKET, R. I., Jan. 6, 1886.

Editor Register—In reply to yours of this date I can only say that I left Middlebury in 1832. I knew Azoz Stead and Jonathan Wainwright, but have no recollection about a bay stallion owned by either of them. Mr. Wainwright was a man that at times had a great many horses on hand. The firm R. & J. Wainwright wintered three hundred and twenty-one, the year before I left Vermont. I do not know that I ever met you, but when a boy I have fished for trout all about your present location many times.

Yours truly, R. P. SMITH.

HARRIS HORSE.

A third letter from Wm. E. Hale says that he is not sure but Samuel Eddy sold the Harris Horse to Hiram Eddy. He does not think the Eddys owned him but once. He is sure Mr. Harris had charge of him one year for Samuel Eddy. Think he stood at Middlebury at one time, but not certain. Does not remember service fee. Then, in answer to questions, he adds "I never had charge of that horse. I never owned one of his stock."

COOK HORSE, OR YOUNG PHOENIX.

LETTER FROM CAPT. A. S. COOK.

BRANDON, VT., Jan. 4, 1886.

Editor Register—In answer to your inquiry relating to Young Phoenix: My father trained a sorrel mare for him with Samuel Barker of Peru, N. Y., otherwise of Vergennes, Vt., in 1836 at Salisbury, Vt. Soon after he gave him to me. I owned and kept him from 1836 to 1842.

Mr. Barker's statement about his pedigree, I have heard, was: "Sired by Old Phoenix, a high-blooded horse, the mare, a full-blood Morgan," which I believe is true. He had all the points and marks of Morgan. He has been ridden on pasture and at masters with Gifford Morgan and others of the same breed; every one would say there was no trouble but he was Morgan enough. David Hill told me of Black Hawk and said it Phoenix was no more than ten years old, and he owned him, he could make another fortune with him, and I have heard him say if there was Morgan in any horse it was in him. This is about all I can tell about him. We never owned any other stallion while in Salisbury. You ask if William Wainwright ever used this horse. Will say that William Wainwright used Phoenix several times or years. I do not remember in particular about Locklin Wainwright's mare. I know Wainwright raised several very fine colts by Phoenix.

Yours truly, A. S. COOK.

VERMONT TROTTERS.

CORLISS, 2:29 1/2 : MAY DAY / 2:30.

A letter from Chas. Be Ballard, White River Junction, states that he beat the trotters May Day (2:30) and Col. Pike (2:29 1/2), both by Ballard's Cassius M. Clay, son of old Cassius M. Clay. Son of Col. Pike, bright bay mare of unknown pedigree. Dam of May Day, a bay mare bred in Maine, said to be by Hiram Drew.

NEAVE'S CASSIUS M. CLAY, JR.—LETTER FROM HIS BREEDER.

PORT WASHINGTON, L. I., Dec. 31, 1885.

Editor Register—I received your letter respecting Cassius M. Clay, Jr.'s dam and grand-dam. His dam was sired by Chancellor, and his grand-dam was by Mount Holly. Cassius M. Clay, Jr., was the first colt that Cassius M. Clay got, and he was the first colt his dam had. I sold him to Lewis Depew and William Stutes of New Rochelle. They let Joseph Godwin and John Mcchesney have him. Chancellor was sired by Mambrino, and was a much better horse than Abdallah or Almack. The grand-dam was by Mount Holly. He was sired by Messenger, the sire of Mambrino. I owned the grand-dam and raised the dam of Cassius M. Clay, Jr. I drove the dam of Cassius three miles on the Hempstead track, taken from a lumber wagon, in eight minutes, and a full sister of Cassius was driven by Wm. Connors in 2:33 without much handling.

If this information is of any use to you, and if I can give you any more, I will do so on hearing from you again.

Yours truly,

CHAS. W. MITCHELL.